

well attended and I did not see little groups standing out in the corridors smoking and telling jokes while the others were praying, as I have sometimes seen at other meetings that I have attended. We sang nothing but Psalms out of deference to the Psalm singing branches of the Church. Sixteen of these Psalms were printed on a leaflet and furnished the music for the entire ten days of the Conference. Some of them we wore pretty well to a frazzle. Sometimes the organ played and sometimes it did not, but I could not discover the principle that guided in that. I was particularly struck with an air of reverence in all the devotional meetings. But they just would not stand in prayer. The other week a visiting minister was preaching for me and while he prayed I thought I would observe the attitude of my people in prayer. I was pained to see how few stood. I have taken comfort since my visit to the Council. There was a body of Presbyterian ministers from all over the world. You would never see more than two or three standing. However, there was one man I could always count on. No matter who else stood he stood. Often he stood alone. That was Dr. A. M. Fraser, of Staunton, Va. Some of us have observed that he is ready to stand alone not only in prayer but in anything else when he thinks he is right.

It would be impossible in a limited article to give a detailed program of the meeting. I will therefore give some of the leading topics that were discussed.

1. John Calvin came in for his full share of the Council. I think they spent a day and a half on him. Some of the papers were excellent. The three that attracted most attention were those by Dr. B. B. Warfield, Dr. S. M. Smith, and Dr. James I. Vance. All three were superb. General R. E. Prime, of New York, had a remarkable paper on Calvin and Servetus. When I saw his flaming red tie which they say he always wears, I knew there was going to be emphasis in his speech. Indeed, I was prepared to see Calvin receive a thorough going drubbing. But to my utter surprise he took the other side and gave Servetus such a flogging as he has probably not had since Little Council in Geneva had hold of him. Indeed, I thought the paper was extreme and rather failed in its purpose for that very reason. The subject is a very delicate one and needs the utmost calmness in its treatment. Yet, the more I study the story of Calvin and Servetus the more difficult does it become for me to see what else John Calvin could have done but what he did. Servetus had come to Geneva to enter into a death struggle with Calvin.

2. Sunday School work received its full share of attention. I was greatly interested in hearing how Sunday School work is done in various lands. The Scotch brethren interested me especially. I forgot to say that Scotland was well represented and a great many of their men were very interesting. Mr. Philip Howard, of Philadelphia, made a talk on the pastor's place in the Sunday-school that gripped me more than anything else I heard in connection with the Sunday-school part of the program. He writes for the Sunday School Times and belongs in a class with men like the Whites and Robert E. Speer and John R. Mott.

3. A day was spent in the department of Higher Criticism. I expected to hear all sorts of things, but

I did not. "A conservative note ran through all of it. One Scotchman tried very hard to get the floor but failed. From his general demeanor I suspect he would have been radical enough. But he had to go back across the water with all that Higher Criticism in his system. The best thing I heard in this department was a paper by Prof. Wm. P. Armstrong, of Princeton "The Resurrection of Texas and Historical Criticism." He was crowded for time and his delivery was poor but it was a great paper. I heard nothing in the Council that showed more scholarship. They tell me he is a native of Selma, Ala.

When the discussion on Higher Criticism was over I felt that the Conservatives could boast of just as profound scholarship as the other side, and I felt too that the Church of God had nothing to fear along this line.

4. What is a proper preparation for the ministry in this twentieth century? Are the Princeton Seminary boys right in their recent petition to the trustees to so re-adjust the course in the Seminary as to suit modern conditions? This whole subject of ministerial training was discussed. I will confess that I got nothing new out of it. Dr. Theron Rice was to have read a paper on that subject but was not able to be at the Council. His paper, I suppose, will be printed in the volume that is to contain the reports of the Council. I would like to see what one of our own well nigh ideal ministers has to say on the subject of "The Ideal Education for the Ministry."

5. Foreign Missions formed a topic for a number of most excellent papers and talks. The man who interested me most was Dr. Robert Laws, of the Livingstonia Mission in the heart of Africa. He went to Livingstonia in 1875. He found himself in the midst of savages with no written language or anything else. Now there are nearly 5,000 church members in his own Mission, to say nothing of other Missions, and there are nearly 45,000 children in the schools carried on by his Mission. The United Free Church of Scotland called him home and made him Moderator of their last Assembly. No man has interested me so since I had the privilege of hearing Dr. John G. Paton.

The Council showed great interest in the case of Drs. Morrison and Sheppard. In this connection let me say that we had the great pleasure of meeting Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whyte, of London. Our Southern Presbyterian Church is deeply indebted to Mr. Whyte for all the kindness he has shown our African missionaries since the day Lapseley first went out to the present time. He reminds me more of an old Virginia gentleman than anybody I have ever seen who was not one. He is the very embodiment of courtesy and cordiality. His energy is one of his striking characteristics. I wish our whole Church knew him.

6. Home Missions had as full hearing as Foreign Missions, but unfortunately I did not hear many of the papers. Among those I heard there was none that was particularly striking. These are some of the topics discussed. There were others but I can not make mention of them without occupying the whole of the paper this week.

All the papers were prepared with care and when